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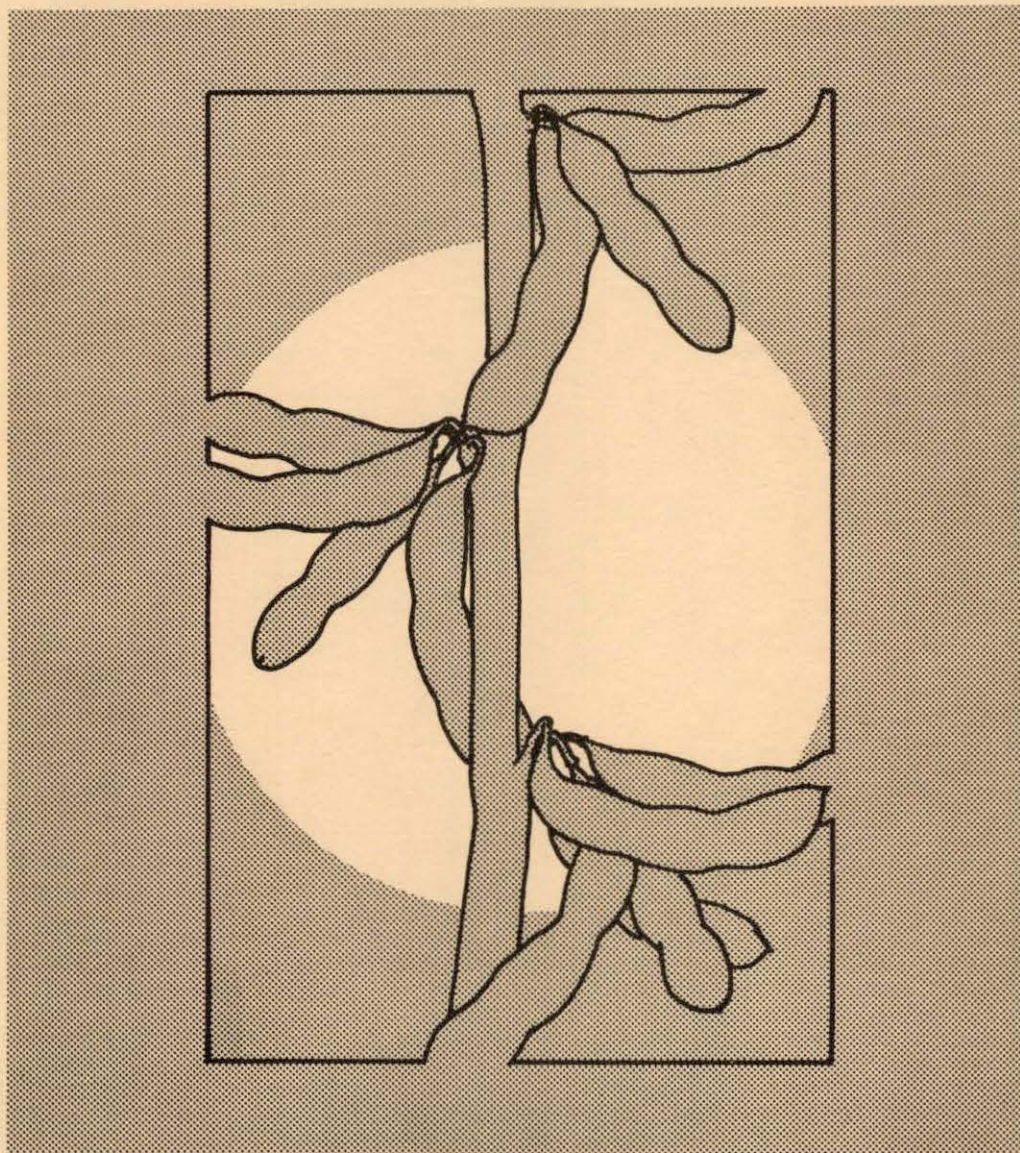
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Agricultural Research Service - USDA
and Department of Agronomy
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I. FOREWORD

Scientists have frequently used newsletters as a means of informal communication. The Maize, Barley, and Pisum Newsletters are familiar examples.

Soybean workers have been a rather small group and were mainly located in Japan and the U.S. Rapid expansion of soybean acreage has been followed by a rapid proliferation in numbers of scientists in many different countries. The need for communication is apparent. In the U.S., we had our first National Soybean Meeting in 1971 and the second was in 1973. An International Soybean Meeting is scheduled for 1975 (see Announcements, this Newsletter).

The Soybean Genetics Newsletter (SGN) will serve as a means of communication at the international level. The Newsletter will have emphasis on genetics and breeding of the soybean and immediate relatives. These areas are broadly interpreted to include research relating to genetics in fields such as biochemistry, entomology, pathology, physiology, taxonomy, etc.

The information in the SGN is of an informal nature to stimulate thought and to exchange ideas. Newsletter articles may be preliminary in nature and speculative in content. Even so, such reports can be exceedingly valuable and helpful, if viewed in the proper perspective.

Publication of this first volume is no small task and we wish to express our sincere thanks to Hollys Heer for her efficient and competent services. The voluntary assistance of Linda Martin, Eke Meister, and Monica Sheridan is gratefully acknowledged.

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R. G. Palmer